

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: IOWA JOINT UTILITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, INC.	DOCKET NO. CGP-01-12
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ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION AND ISSUING CERTIFICATE

(Issued October 31, 2001)

On August 30, 2001, Iowa Joint Utility Management, Inc. (IJUMP, Inc.), filed an application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas provider (CNGP) with the Utilities Board (Board). The application was identified as Docket No. CGP-01-12. The Board's rules at 199 IAC 2.2(18) and 19.14 establish the filing requirements for the issuance of a certificate. Subrule 19.14(4) states that an applicant will be notified when its application is complete and the 90-day review period begins. On September 10, 2001, the Board notified IJUMP, Inc., that the application was complete and the 90-day review period had begun.

IJUMP, Inc., is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of Iowa and it has a certificate from the Iowa Secretary of State to do business in Iowa. IJUMP, Inc., through a predecessor, has been providing service as an aggregator to participating school boards in Iowa since 1997. The service was provided under the Iowa Joint Utility Management Program (I-JUMP) established as a pilot project to allow Iowa school districts to transport natural gas.

An aggregator as defined in Iowa Code § 476.86 is a person who combines retail end users into a group and arranges for the acquisition of competitive natural gas services without taking title to those services. An aggregator is included in those CNGPs required to obtain a certificate under 199 IAC 19.14. Subrule 199 IAC 19.14(2) allows CNGPs providing service in Iowa prior to April 25, 2001, to continue providing service during the certification process. Since IJUMP, Inc., through a predecessor, was providing service to customers, prior to that date, IJUMP, Inc., has been authorized to provide service until the completion of its certification process.

IJUMP, Inc.'s application indicates that it has contracted with WPS Energy Services, Inc., to provide principal program administration functions and with Latham and Associates, Inc., for energy consulting services. These companies provide IJUMP, Inc. with the management and technical experience necessary to comply with the requirements of 199 IAC 19.14 and to provide the service IJUMP, Inc., proposes to provide. The participating school boards will hold title to the natural gas services and will be responsible for payment of all components of their natural gas service.

Paragraph 6 of the application requires CNGPs who will serve small volume customers to submit specific financial information. The school districts to be served by IJUMP, Inc., will be small volume customers as defined in 199 IAC 19.14(1). IJUMP, Inc., included the required information in its application. Since IJUMP, Inc.,

will be an aggregator and not take title to the gas, its financial information is subject to less scrutiny.

Iowa Code § 476.87 requires that a competitive natural gas provider or aggregator must reasonably demonstrate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services it proposes to offer. The Board finds that IJUMP, Inc., has sufficient financial resources to provide competitive natural gas services to small volume customers as an aggregator. The Board finds that if IJUMP, Inc., decides to become a marketer and take title to the gas, it must first file for an amended certificate. Based upon IJUMP, Inc.'s application, the Board finds that IJUMP, Inc., has reasonably demonstrated that it possesses the appropriate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services it proposes to offer. Additionally, IJUMP, Inc., expressed its commitment to comply with all applicable conditions of certification contained in 199 IAC 19.14(5) and (6). IJUMP, Inc., also acknowledged that failure to comply with all applicable conditions might result in the revocation of its certificate.

The Board finds that IJUMP, Inc.'s application complies with the filing requirements of Board rules and that IJUMP, Inc., will be issued a CNGP certificate as an aggregator of natural gas service. The Board finds that no additional conditions should be placed on the certificate.

Concurrently with the issuance of this order, the Board will issue a certificate, identified as Certificate No. G-0009, to IJUMP, Inc. IJUMP, Inc., will be subject to the

reporting requirements contained in 199 IAC 19.14(5)"c" once the certificate is issued.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1 The application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas service provider in Iowa filed by Iowa Joint Utility Management Program, Inc., on August 30, 2001, is approved

2. Iowa Joint Utility Management Program, Inc., shall comply with the filing requirements of 199 IAC 19.14(5).

3. Certificate No. G-0009 shall be issued to Iowa Joint Utility Management, Inc.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 31st day of October, 2001.